



2/10/04

CONFERENCE REPORT

SB 252 (BRATER)

SB 252 would raise approximately \$3 million in fee revenue. Detroit's fee would be increased 400% from \$66,000 to \$213,000. Agricultural users are given an exemption. And, DEQ must be given specific rule making authority by the legislature.

Currently in Michigan, a discharger can receive a permit by submitting an application to the MDEQ for their intended level of discharge, however there is no cost for the application or for holding the permit.

- The Senate adopted the Conference Report to SB 252 [RC 27: 21 yes (GOP), 17 no]. Immediate Effect was given to the bill [RC 28: 30 yes, 8 no]. Sen. BRATER: Polluters should pay to track their own pollution. Taxpayers should not be made to pay for the pollution of others.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

SB 334 (SWITALSKI)

Supporters argue that SB 334 grants more flexibility for the use of road funds. It allows municipalities to spend state dollars on local streets for preservation activities without a match of local dollars, becoming a way to help finance the redevelopment our cities.

- The Senate concurred with the House changes to SB 334 [RC 29: yes, no]. Immediate Effect was given to the bill [no RC].

FINAL PASSAGE

SB 350 (Brown)

SB 432 (Hammerstrom)

SB 350 would require the Secretary of State to furnish to each county clerk, at State expense, two voter information displays for each precinct. The displays would have to be in at least 18-point type and contain the hours that the polls would be open; voting instructions; information on an individual's right to obtain a provisional ballot, etc.

- Committee 1 (S-2) was adopted [no RC].

- SB 350 was moved to 3rd Reading.
- SB 350 passed [RC 34: 38 yes, 0 no].

SB 432 would specify that the Secretary of State: 1) would be responsible for the coordination of requirements imposed under the federal Help America Vote Act. 2) allow an individual who was not listed on the voter registration list to receive a ballot and vote, if he or she presented a receipt issued by specified State or local officers verifying the acceptance of a voter registration application. 3) allow an unlisted individual to vote a "provisional ballot" under certain circumstances. 4) require a voter who had moved within a city or township to verify his or her change of residence, or vote in his or her former precinct, and submit an address correction before being allowed to vote.

- Committee 1 (S-2) was adopted [no RC].
- CLARK-COLEMAN (S-3) was defeated [no RC]. This would have removed those onerous provisions of the bill which make it more difficult for voters to vote.
- SB 432 was moved to 3rd Reading.
- CLARK-COLEMAN (S-3) was defeated [RC 30: 16 yes, 22 no]. Again, this would have removed those onerous provisions of the bill which make it more difficult for voters to vote.
- BRATER 2 (2 amends) was defeated [RC 31: 16 yes, 22 no]. This would have allowed vote-by-mail in Michigan.
- LELAND 3 (1 amend) was defeated [RC 32: 16 yes, 22 no]. This would have allowed open absentee voting for all voters.
- SB 432 passed [RC 33: 22 yes, 16 no (DEMS)].

THIRD READING

SB 653 (LELAND)

SB 653 would extend the sunset on the Baseline Environmental Assessment fee that is required to accompany a petition for liability exemption. [A Baseline Environmental Assessment (BEA) is used to determine the environmental condition of the property prior to purchase. The BEA program allows new owners or operators to redevelop and reuse contaminated property without incurring liability for the existing contamination.] The sunset is currently June 5, 2003 and would be extended until June 5, 2005. The fee is \$750.

The extension of this fee allows the DEQ to continue to provide this service to property owners in Michigan. Without this fee, the DEQ would not be able to deliver this service in the timeframe that can be critical to redevelopment decision-making.

Support: Michigan Environmental Council, DEQ.

- SB 653 was moved to 3rd Reading. No amendments.

SB 703 (McManus)

SB 703 requires all persons riding on or being towed behind a personal watercraft on the waters of Michigan to wear a personal flotation device. The bill also phases out the changes after 5 years at which point it would revert to the current law.

Support: DNR, Coast Guard.

- Committee 1 (S-2) was adopted [no RC].
- SB 703 was moved to 3rd Reading.

SB 774 (BERNERO)

SB 774 would amend the Local Development Financing Act to establish a new deadline for a Smart Zone designation for Lansing/East Lansing.

Support: City of East Lansing, Lansing Regional Chamber of Commerce

- SB 774 was moved to 3rd Reading. No amendments.

SB 862 (Toy)

SB 863 (Hardiman)

SB 864 (George)

SB 865 (BERNERO)

SB 866 (Brown)

SB 867 (Van Woerkom)

SB 868 (Sanborn)

SB 870 (Cropsey)

SB 871(Jelinek)

SB 872 (Patterson)

SB 875 (Gilbert)

Senate Bill 862 would create a single business tax (SBT) credit for start-up businesses that: 1) Had no net income for two consecutive years; 2) Had fewer than 25 employees (calculated on a full-time equated basis); 3) Had annual sales of less than \$1 million; 4) Conducted R&D activity that accounted for at least 15% of its total business expenses; 5) Was not a publicly traded business; and 6) Had a single business tax liability.

Senate Bills 863 through 868, 870, 871, 872, and 875 would allow the start-up businesses to claim a credit against or an exemption from various taxes for five consecutive years.

Combined, these bills will reduce state tax revenues by a few million dollars per year.

SB 862:

- Committee 1 (S-1) was adopted [no RC].
- Sanborn 2 (S-2) was adopted [no RC].
- SB 862 was moved to 3rd Reading.

SB 863:

- Sanborn 1 (S-1) was adopted [no RC].
- SB 863 was moved to 3rd Reading.

SB 864:

- George 1 (S-1) was withdrawn [no RC].
- Sanborn 2 (S-3) was adopted [no RC].
- SB 864 was moved to 3rd Reading.

SB 865:

- Sanborn 1 (S-2) was adopted [no RC].

- SB 865 was moved to 3rd Reading.

SB 866:

- Sanborn 1 (S-2) was adopted [no RC].
- SB 866 was moved to 3rd Reading.

SB 867:

- Sanborn 1 (S-1) was adopted [no RC].
- SB 867 was moved to 3rd Reading.

SB 868:

- Sanborn 1 (S-1) was adopted [no RC].
- SB 868 was moved to 3rd Reading.

SB 870:

- Sanborn 1 (S-1) was adopted [no RC].
- SB 870 was moved to 3rd Reading.

SB 871:

- Sanborn 1 (S-1) was adopted [no RC].
- SB 871 was moved to 3rd Reading.

SB 872:

- Sanborn 1 (S-1) was adopted [no RC].
- SB 872 was moved to 3rd Reading.

SB 875:

- SB 875 was moved to 3rd Reading.